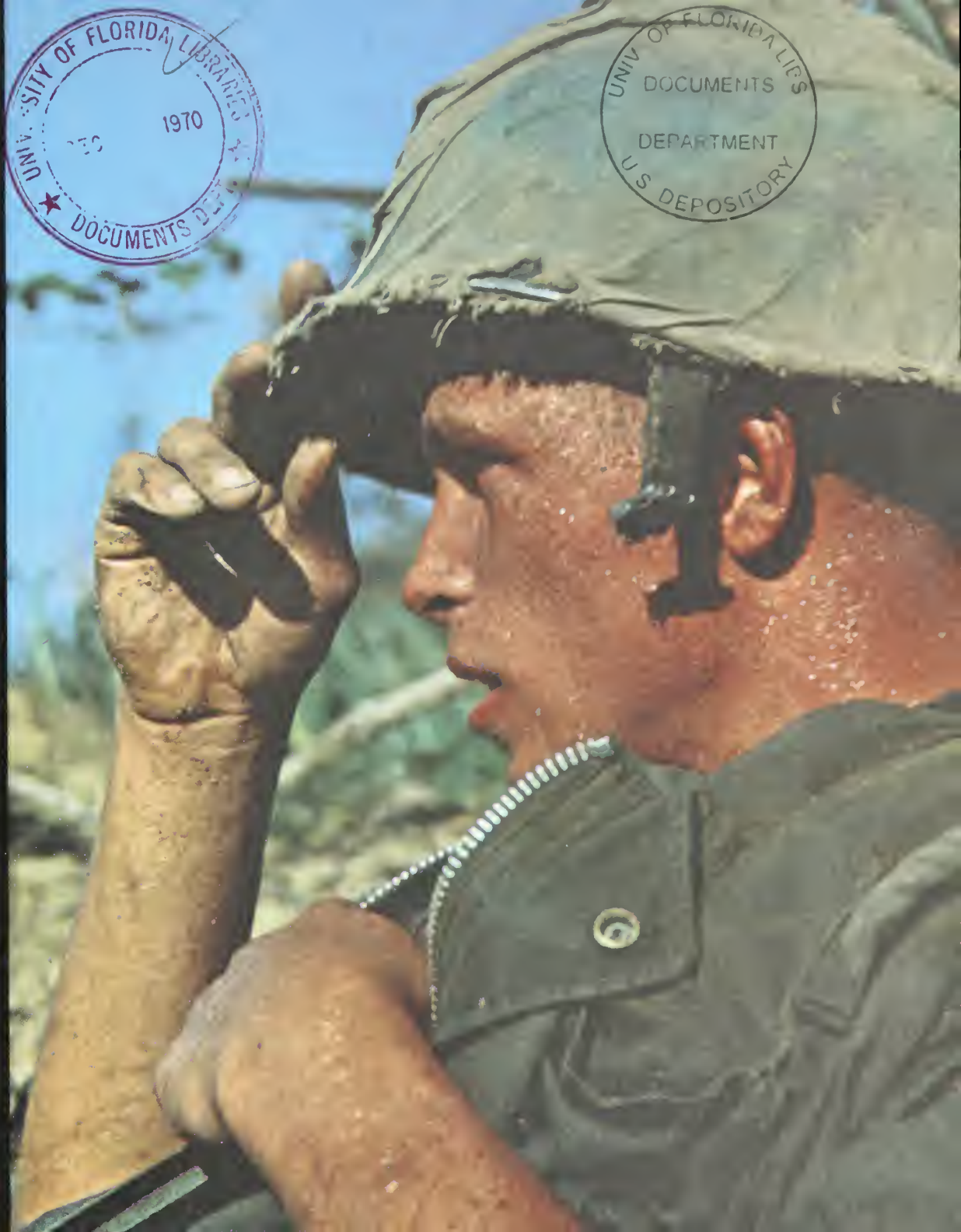
D214.2:
1133/5

Marines in the '60's



UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA LIBRARIES
1970
DOCUMENTS DEPT.
UNIV OF FLORIDA LIBS
DOCUMENTS
DEPARTMENT
U S DEPOSITORY

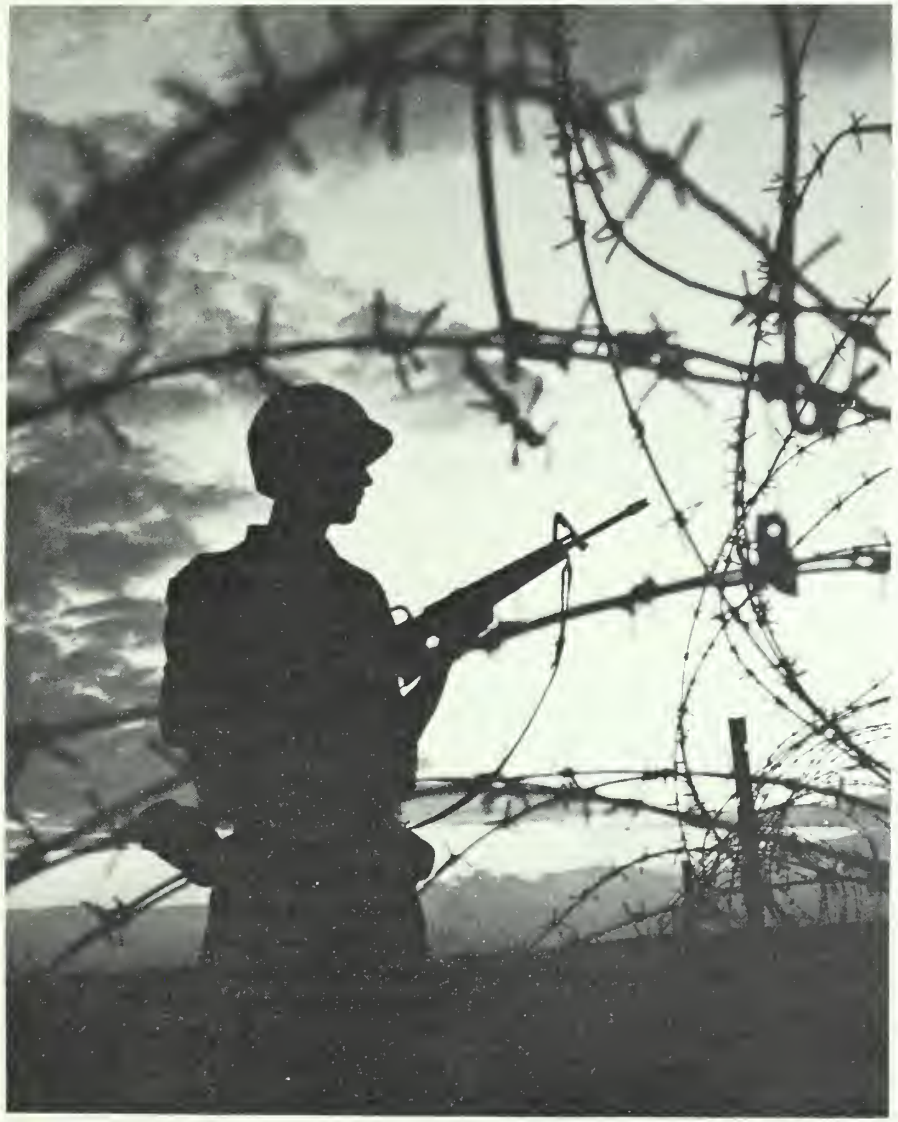
CORPS LEADERS—During the 'sixties, the Marine Corps had three Commandants: Generals David M. Shoup (1960–63), left; Leonard F. Chapman, Jr. (1968–present), and Wallace M. Greene, Jr. (1964–67), right.

☆ ☆ ☆ ☆

"In the long years of fighting . . . there have been no graphic lines of battle, no simple diagram of advancing or retreating forces to follow on a map. There is a country: the Republic of Vietnam. There are the people: the South Vietnamese. And there is an enemy that has committed a distinct act of aggression: North Vietnam. Our intention has never been to destroy the aggressor nation, only to keep the aggressor from destroying his intended victim. Our part in this war is an effort to reestablish peace and order by making it impossible for one nation to impose its will on a neighbor. But it takes great restraint, and an extremely temperate application of power. This country, in the past four and a half years, has shown an unprecedented ability to do just that. But restraint demands a high price. It demands time, and time demands patience."

General Leonard F. Chapman, Jr.
Commandant of the Marine Corps
Speech, October 24, 1969

DECADE OF CHALLENGE AND CHANG



PERIMETER WATCH—A 3d Marine Division Leatherneck moves to his post on perimeter watch at Quang Tri, South Vietnam.

Challenge and change marked the 'sixties. As the decade came to an e the Marine Corps, now 194 years old, continued to take both in stride.

The Corps met commitments on a worldwide basis. As the nation's amp ious force-in-readiness, it served as a potent seaborne deterrent force. the nation's prime amphibious striking force, it projected American seapo onto hostile shores.

Marines, as usual, performed a wide variety of roles and missions in national interest, in war and in actions "short of war." In 1962, during Cuban Missile Crisis—in Thailand also in 1962—and in the Dominican Repu in 1965—Marine ready forces played a significant part in preserving w peace.

In 1965, a new era and a new war began for Marines. American con troops were first ordered to the Republic of Vietnam (RVN) in March 196 help prevent a communist overthrow of that country. The initial landing made by Marines at Da Nang, RVN, on March 8. Later, five other Free W Nations joined U. S. and RVN forces in the fight against the Viet Cong an vading North Vietnamese armed forces.

The demands of this distant and difficult war were heavy. Its impac the Marine Corps was deeply felt. To meet the challenge, the Marine Corps

. . . moved from a peacetime readiness posture to combat action in Republic of Vietnam.

. . . achieved the second highest strength in its history.

. . . built up a powerful land-sea-air striking force and logistic command III Marine Amphibious Force (III MAF).

. . . reactivated for wartime service the 5th Marine Division of Iwo Jima fa

. . . continued to fight its longest war.

ALERT—Cpl. Carl J. Pedrotti watches his scout dog as he stops to test the wind while on patrol.

For the third time in 24 years, the United States sent its Armed Forces into sustained combat, this time in Vietnam.

The Marine Corps called into play its amphibious warfare doctrine and the "Air/Ground Team" concept, using helicopter assault tactics and improved air and artillery support. The Marine specialty of providing close air support to its ground units, pioneered by Marines in Nicaragua in 1927, was constantly utilized during the war in Vietnam.

Underscoring this was the Marine Corps' basic concept of the Fleet Marine Force, organized into a highly mobile, flexible, amphibious force-in-readiness. It has the unique capability of providing battalion and regimental landing teams, or brigade and larger landing forces, augmented by combat service units and supporting air. These are capable of being quickly assembled and fielded to whatever mission or geographical location requiring a speedy reaction force.

IN ACTION—Marines return fire from enemy snipers along riverside near Da Nang, South Vietnam.

WOMEN MARINES

1969 IN REVIEW

The Women Marines celebrated their 26th birthday on February 13. Colonel Jeanette I. Sustad assumed office as the sixth Director of Women Marines, January 31, succeeding Colonel Barbara J. Bishop. Selected for the highest enlisted billet was *Sergeant Major Mabel A. Otten*, who succeeded retiring *Sergeant Major Ouida Craddock* as Sergeant Major of Women Marines, in August.

Approximately 310 Women Marine officers and 2350 enlisted women were on duty throughout the continental U. S., Hawaii, England, Germany, Italy, Japan, Lebanon, Okinawa, and RVN.

Pvt. Diana Curtis receives her Marine Corps emblems during graduation exercises at Marine Corps Recruit Depot, Parris Island, S.C.

AMPHIBIOUS EXERCISES

Marines deployed with the Landing Force, Sixth Fleet, in the Mediterranean —conducted exercises and maneuvers in Sardinia, Corsica, Crete, Spain, and Turkey. Other deployed Marines from FMFLant participated in exercises in Puerto Rico, Bermuda, St. Thomas, the Netherlands, Antilles, and the Canal Zone. These operations were in addition to those conducted throughout the U. S. and overseas by Regular and Reserve Marines.

Among the large-scale exercises conducted in 1969 were:

EXOTIC DANCER II, a joint-service exercise in the Caribbean, with all four of the U. S. Armed Services participating.

BELL CALL, conducted in a counterinsurgency environment by elements of the 5th Marine Division.

ANTO DOMINGO — Marines were alled upon in 1965 to help restore order luring a civil war in Santo Domingo.

THE EARLY SIXTIES

In the Far East, in early 1962, units of the Fleet Marine Force, Pacific's 3d Marine Division were called into Thailand to insure the territorial integrity of that country under the Manila Pact of 1954. About the same time, Marine Medium Helicopter Squadron–362 arrived at Soc Trang, RVN, to help that country's military forces in their fight against the Viet Cong. Later that year, the squadron moved north to Da Nang.

In early 1965, President Johnson ordered Marines into the strife-torn Dominican Republic, at the request of the American Ambassador and that country's government, in order to evacuate threatened American and foreign nationals and help restore order in the capital, Santo Domingo. The presence of the Marines and American soldiers, who were subsequently flow in, was instrumental in effecting an uneasy truce, and the Marines were withdrawn with the establishment of an Inter-American Peace Force.

MARINE CORPS RESERVE

In 1969, for the first time, three Reserve Regimental Exercises took place with all battalions of the regiments training at the same site during the same period of time. For the first time also, all the Marine organizations composing the operational forces in the exercises were Reserves. The exercises, on the East and West Coasts of the U. S., were all supported by Marine aviation.

Reserve units not participating in major exercises trained at regular Armed Forces Operational and Training Facilities from coast to coast with emphasis on individual and small-unit skills.

More than 40,000 Marine Reservists took part in Annual Training Duty in 1969.

MAKE-UP—Assuming the role of guerillas, PFC Douglas J. Fuller (left LCpl. Larry D. Kitch apply soot in preparation for a night infantry man They are Marine Corps Reservists attending two weeks summer camp a of the 4th Light Antiaircraft Missile Battalion, Fresno, Calif.

MARINE ANNIVERSARIES

In 1969, Marines noted the 25th anniversary of five major World War II campaigns:

. . . 31 January	. . Marshall Islands
. . . 15 June	. . Saipan
. . . 21 July	. . Guam
. . . 24 July	. . Tinian
. . . 15 September	. . Peleliu

JUNIOR ROTC

In September, Marine Corps Junior ROTC units were operating in 22 high schools in the U. S., with 3,481 students participating.

MUD SPLATTERED—Cpl. Donald M. Ward, a tank driver with "C" Co., 1st Tank Bn., scans the muddy road while providing security for a convoy near Da Nang.

WAR YEARS

When President Johnson ordered combat troops into Vietnam in March 1965, Marines had the necessary combat experience and ready status to deploy immediately. After the initial landing at Da Nang on March 8, Marines worked from ever-expanding "enclaves" at Da Nang, Chu Lai, and Hue/Phu Bai. The Short Airfield for Tactical Support (SATS) constructed at Chu Lai in three weeks was but one example of Marine Corps doctrine applied successfully in a combat zone. That strip launched and recovered more than 60,000 combat sorties before being reduced to a secondary role with completion of an adjacent concrete runway.

During the early months of the conflict, Marines developed methods of anti-guerrilla warfare that would become common for all U. S. troops in Vietnam. Throughout the war, pacification, civic action and constant patrolling were the base of the Marine effort in Vietnam. In *Operation Starlite* in mid-1965, Marines executed a textbook example of counter-guerrilla operations by surrounding and nearly annihilating a regimental-size VC force near Chu Lai.

The character of the war changed sharply in early 1966, when massive North Vietnamese Army forces crossed the DMZ in organized combat units. Marines met and defeated them in Operation *Hastings* (July '66) and later in Operation *Prairie* (Aug-Dec '66). Heavy fighting on and near the "Rockpile" earned

WAITING IT OUT—Leathernecks of the Ninth Marine Regiment wait out a North Vietnamese Army rocket and artillery attack against the outpost at Con Thien in late 1967.

that hill a place in Corps history books. In early 1967, another NVA thrust was turned back in the northwest corner of I Corps, in the historic battles for hills 881, 861, and 689. Soon the enemy's invasion attempts shifted to the Con Thien - Gio Linh area. Fighting raged in "Leatherneck Square" for the last half of 1967, but once again the enemy was beaten back. Credit for the defense of the DMZ throughout the period July '66 to January '68 fell largely to the courageous men of the U. S. 3d Marine Division, which was reinforced from time to time by elements of the 1st Marine Division.

Two of the Corps' most famous Vietnam battles took place in the first months of 1968. To draw U. S. troops away from populated areas during the Tet offensive and to capture U. S. headlines with a major victory, the North Vietnamese beseiged Khe Sanh with a multi-division force. The 26th Marines (reinforced) held out through the 70-day ordeal, while U. S. air and artillery dealt the enemy terrible losses.

In Hue, outnumbered Marines of the 1st Marine Division encountered their toughest city fighting since Korea, but routed the entrenched enemy in a three-week battle.

Fighting continued heavy in I Corps through the mid-summer of 1968. Then, while the shattered enemy regrouped across the borders, Marines stormed his jungle and mountain havens in a series of heliborne assaults.

RETURNING FIRE—Marines of "A" Co., 1st Bn., 1st Marine Regiment, fire from a house window during a search and clear mission in the battle of Hue.

HARVEST MOON—PFC L. E. Crane, a gunner from "G" Co., 2d Bn., 9th Marines, cleans his magazine after a firefight with the Viet Cong during Operation Harvest Moon.

THE WAR IN 1969.

Abandoning several fixed bases in favor of a highly mobile posture, Marines continued to strike at the Communists' base areas in 1969.

Thirty-five major operations of battalion size or larger were conducted in I Corps during 1969. Included in this total are nine amphibious landing operations by the Seventh Fleet's Special Landing Forces. In addition to the large unit operations, more than 2,000 company-size operations were conducted while small unit operations were in excess of 200,000.

Major combat operations conducted in 1969 are listed below. In six of these, enemy casualties exceeded 500; and in *Taylor Common* and *Dewey Canyon*, they exceeded 1,200.

Name of Operation	Dates
Taylor Common	7 Dec 68–8 Mar 69
Dewey Canyon	22 Jan–19 Mar 69
Purple Martin	27 Feb–8 May 69
Maine Crag	15 Mar–2 May 69
*Montana Mauler	23 Mar–3 Apr 69
Oklahoma Hills	31 Mar–29 May 69
Muskogee Meadow	7–20 Apr 69
Virginia Ridge	30 Apr–16 Jul 69
%Daring Rebel	5–20 May 69
Herkimer Mtn.	9 May–16 Jul 69
*Apache Snow	10 May–7 Jun 69
#Pipestone Canyon	26 May–7 Nov 69
Cameron Falls	29 May–23 Jun 69
Utah Mesa	12 Jun–9 Jul 69
Idaho Canyon	16 Jul–25 Sep 69
#%Defiant Stand	7–19 Sep 69

* Combined USMC/USA Operation
\# Combined USMC/Korean MC Operation
% SLF Operation

OPERATION DARING REBEL—A Marine from Battalion Landing Team 1/26 rushes across the deck of the Amphibious Assault Ship USS Okinawa *(LPH-3) to board a helicopter to take part in* Operation Daring Rebel. *(Official U.S. Navy Photo)*

A NEEDED HAND—2dLt. Ronald L. Scroggin rushes to the aid
machine gunner, Cpl. Mitchell Smith, during a fire fight with t
Assistant Gunner, LCpl. Stephen P. Kindred, stands by with more
All were with "M" Co., 3d Battalion, 7th Marines.

EADY—Leathernecks of Fifth Marine Regiment prepare mortar rounds for instant sponse to calls for fire on enemy positions.

REPAIR TEAM TROUBLE SHOOTER — Cpl. Nathaniel Prince (Right), spots a minor problem as he checks over a 60mm mortar tube at Vandegrift Combat Base, South Vietnam. Price is a member of the Force Logistic Support Group Bravo's small arms contact team.

Photo Highlights of . . . . . .

THE MARINE IN VIETNAM COMBAT OPERATIONS

"HOME" SAFE—Marines from "C" Co., 1st Bn., 26th Marine Regiment, enter the company perimeter where they will rest after a patrol during Operation Bold Pursuit, *20 miles south of Da Nang.*

STONE AND TILE—The Hoa Khanh Children's Hospital, inside the main area of Marine Force Logistic Command near Da Nang. Valued at over $300,000, *it was constructed by South Vietnamese under guidance of Navy Seabees and Marines.*

DEEP WATER TRIALS—Student drivers in Vietnam, from "B" Co., 11th Motor Transport Battalion, put the new vehicle, the "Huskie" *through its paces. The* Huskie *can transport 11 to 13 Marines 200 to 300 miles on land or 22 miles in the water without refueling.*

SHOP TALK—Maj. B. D. Rinehart, pilot of the AH-1G Cobra gunship from VMO-2, discusses the aircraft's capabilities with LCpl. Dennis E. Crowel, a reconnaissance scout. The Cobra can accurately deliver heavy pinpoint fire on enemy targets.

REPAIR SHOP—Marine L-Cpl. Gary Kay, bangs out dents on a fender at Maintenance Co., Force Logistic Command. The body and fender shop is just one of the many busy work areas in the Marine Maintenance Co.

CONCERN—It is difficult to guess the reason for this look of concern worn by PFC Kevin J. Campbell. Perhaps it is concern over the myriad jobs his unit, Force Logistic Command, must perform to keep things rolling smoothly.

AIR DELIVERY PERSONNEL—A Leather from Force Logistic Command's Aerial Pla leaves a transport aircraft in a jump near Nang. Air Delivery personnel often jump du emergency resupply missions. The platoon m on-the-spot delivery of supplies by parachu Marine infantrymen.

READYING FOR PATROL — Marines prepare for a night patrol. Marines of Force Logistic Command Provisional Rifle Company ready for night activity near Da Nang. As part of FLC camp security, they patrol their perimeter.

UP AND AWAY—Marines of the 1st Force Recon make training jump from C-117 aircraft near Phu Bai, RVN.

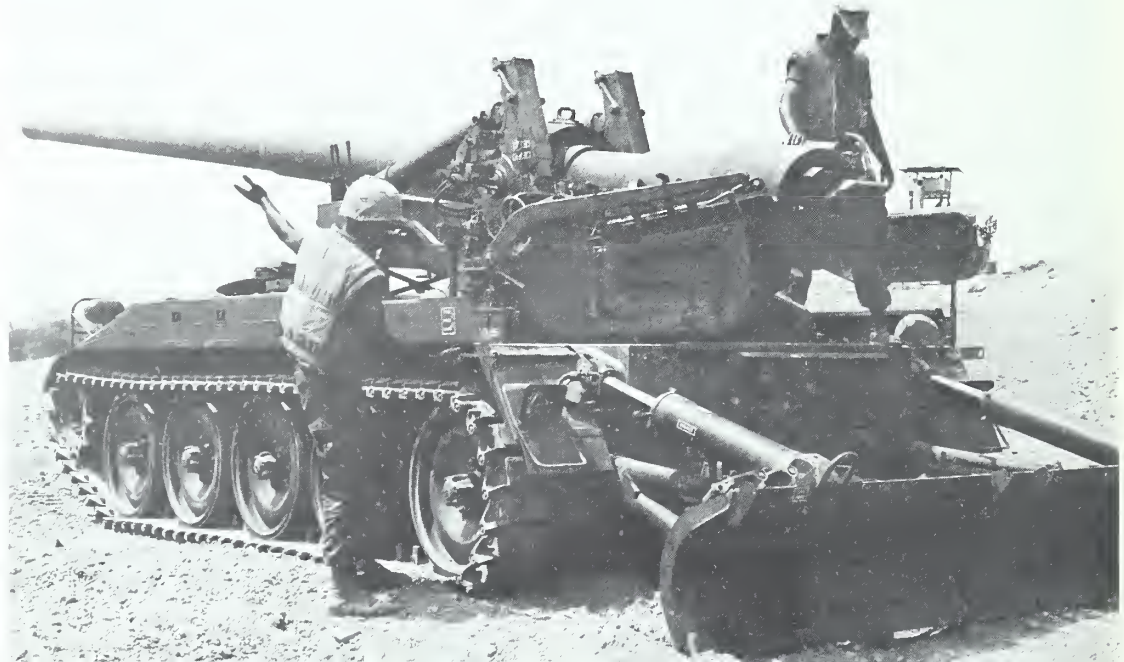
OPERATION MALLARD—Feet are the foundation of the infantry, and these Marines of Lima Company, 3d Battalion, 7th Marines, have learned that dry socks and feet are a big asset while on patrol.

SNIPER FIRE—Cpl. James Moore points out an enemy sniper position to SSgt. Henry W. Taylor, Jr. Both are members of the 9th Marine Regiment participating in Operation Dewey Canyon *in the northern Ashua Valley complex.*

ONG LIFT—Aircrewmen assist a combat casualty aboard a AG-39 Sea Knight helicopter during Operation Dewey Canyon. *he helicopter used a winch and cable to hoist the wounded arine.*

HAWK MISSILES—Two Marines of "C" Battery, 2d Light Anti-Aircraft Missile Battalion stand sentry duty near their launcher in Vietnam.

SETTING IN—A 175mm gun in Vietnam—capable of traveling 375 miles at top speed of 35 m.p.h.



RECON TRAINING—Marines of the 3d Reconnaissance Battalion rac
the Quang Tri River in a rubber boat as part of their continuous train
conditioning. When not on recon patrols deep in enemy territory, these
spend long hours sharpening skills required to operate as a small team aga
enemy.

LAST OF A BUNKER—An enemy bunker is blown up by Marine engineers during Operation Meade River *southwest of Da Nang. The operation was the largest helicopter-borne assault in Marine Corps history.*

PIERCING—Mortarmen of Fifth Marine Regiment fire 81mm mortar in support of infantry during Operation Allenbrook, *a combat sweep held south of Da Nang.*

ENEMY WEAPON — Marines of 3d Reconnaisance Battalion carry NVA 12.7mm antiaircraft guns captured from a large enemy munitions cache.

LIGHT BUNDLE — LCpl. J. Moon, an intelligence scout attached to "B" Co., 1st Bn., 5th Marines, carries a child as his company escorts a group of Vietnamese villagers to a resettlement area near the An Hoa Combat Base.

DIRTY WORK—LCpl. Boyd R. Jones d foundations for a bunker that will protect at Con Thien.

RADIO CONTACT—Cpl. Ron Guysinger, 2d Battalion, 1st Marine Regiment, calls in for air support as the enemy continues to fire artillery at Marines advancing to the top of Hill 881 North.

A BIG THIRST—PFC Joe Perez pauses to quench his thirst while building an ammunition bunker. The regiment was taking part in Operation Oklahoma Hills, *a multi-battalion search and clear operation 18 miles west northwest of Da Nang.*

FROM THE SEA—Marine Corps Tracked Landing Vehicles (LVT) travel in formation toward the beach as part of a combat operation in South Vietnam.
(OFFICIAL U.S. NAVY PHOTO)

COMBAT READY—LCpl. Gene Maire, a gunner with Company "B", 1st Tank Battalion, cleans and oils a .50 cal. machine gun mounted atop a medium tank at Hill 55, eight miles southwest of Da Nang.

AMPHIBIOUS ASSAULT—Flares illuminate the Batangan Peninsula as Operation Piranha *commences. U.S. Marines and South Vietnamese troops participated. Marine aircraft strafed the area prior to the landing after Navy guns provided shore bombardment support.*

(OFFICIAL U.S. NAVY PHOTO)

RIEF REST—The mortar ction of a 5th Marine egiment unit enjoy a brief st during a search and ear operation in the ountainous jungle five iles south west of An Hoa.

HUSKIES' HONCHO—MSgt. Robert Serpa, platoon sergeant of the Marginal Terrain Vehicle Platoon, 11th Motor Transport Battalion, passes instructions to student drivers being checked out in the Marine Corps' new "Huskie" *vehicle in Vietnam.*

ONE IN 1,000 — *Cpl. William D. Ward takes breather during one of ,000 helicopter combat issions to his credit as rew chief of a Sea Knight helicopter.*

CHRISTMAS TIME—PFC Richard P. Swierk holds a baby girl at the Phy Thuong Orphanage during a Christmas party given by the men of the 1st Battalion, 3d Marines.

CIVIC ACTION PROGRAMS

The highly successful Combined Action Program (CAP), begun with one platoon in the Hue-Phu Bai area in August 1965, has been expanded to all Marine areas of I Corps. There are more than 110 CAP platoons, each of which splices a Marine squad to a Vietnamese militia platoon. Perhaps the greatest improvement to the CAP program in 1969 was brought about by moving 95% of the CAPs out of fixed, fortified compounds and placing them directly within the villages. Here the Marines, practically all volunteers, carry out their task of aiding the South Vietnamese develop their own defense.

Marines and Navy men in I Corps have built—and now provide funds and support for two children's hospitals: the Hoa Khanh Children's Hospital near Da Nang, and the 3d Marine Division Memorial Children's Hospital at Quang Tri. The hospitals also serve as a training center for local Vietnamese who will eventually take over their operation.

Upon their redeployment from RVN in November 1969, the 3d Marine Division arranged for continuing financial support of the hospital and turned over local supervision of construction to the 1st Brigade of the U. S. Army's 5th Division (Mechanized).

By the end of the year, the Marine Corps Reserve's Civic Action Fund for Vietnam, administered by CARE, had netted close to $775,000.

SAND MAN—A Marine Corporal helps with a civic action project. Cpl. Melvin Tatum, a member of a Joint Action Company, works with villagers he is assigned to protect.

MARINES ENTERTAIN YOUNGTERS—Marines of Second Battalion, 7th Marine Regiment, acting as a pantomine drama team on a Medical Civic Action Program near An Hoa in 1967, mingle with the village children after the performance.

TAKE A BREAK TO HELP—A patrol from Force Logistic Co Provisional Rifle Company take while Cpl. Harold R. Ennis ad first aid to a Vietnamese youn

TAKING HOLD—Navy Corpsman Timothy H. Trussell extracts a tooth from Vietnamese youngster during a weekly visit under the Medical Civic Action Program operated by Force Logistic Command.

NIGHT PLANNING—Cpl. Shaun F. Casey, commander of U.S. Marine-Vietnamese Combined Action Platoon, and Vietnamese Popular Forces commander, plan nightly defenses against VC infiltration and terrorist attacks.

ON THE SPOT—LCpl. Dick Brown shows a Vietnamese soldier how to operate a deisel water pump which will be used to supply water in a resettlement area near Cam Lo.

SCHOOL OPENING CELEBRATION—As the new school year begins in a hamlet near Tam Ky, village officials sit down with local Marines who have helped bring peace to their hamlet. Capt. Nick Grosz, Jr., (second fram left), CO of the 1st Combined Action Company, 1st Combined Action Group, was guest of honor.

IT LOADS LIKE THIS—Cpl. John E. White shows a Popular Force soldier how to load and operate a BAR (Browning Automatic Rifle). Both are members of a Combined Action Platoon which operates in Dic Loc hamlet.

1969 IN REVIEW

For Marines, March 8, 1969, marked the fifth year of fighting in the Republic of Vietnam. Peak overall strength figures for the year were approximately 315,000, with 82,200 Marines in RVN. By the end of the year, the figures were 300,000 overall strength; 55,300 Marines still in RVN.

The III MAF, ashore in the Republic of Vietnam, formed the major part of the Fleet Marine Force, Pacific (FMFPac), headquartered in Hawaii and largest of the Marine Operating Forces. Remaining in Vietnam as part of the III MAF were the 1st Marine Division, and the 26th Marine Regiment, supported by forward elements of the 1st Marine Aircraft Wing. Providing logistical support to these combat units was the Force Logistic Command. Marines from the 3d Marine Division provided the Special Landing Forces operating off ships of the Navy's 7th Fleet in the South China Sea.

Other FMFPac units were the 1st Marine Brigade in Hawaii; the California-based 3d Marine Aircraft Wing; Force Troops, FMFPac; and, until their deactivation in late 1969, the 5th Marine Division and the Okinawa-based 9th Marine Amphibious Brigade. The I Marine Expeditionary Force (I MEF) was formed on Okinawa as a major Marine Air/Ground team prepared for contingencies in the Far East.

Fleet Marine Force, Atlantic (FMFLant) is FMFPac's counterpart located on the East Coast of the United States. It is composed of the 2d Marine Division, the 2d Marine Aircraft Wing, and Force Troops, FMFLant.

FMFLant landing teams were constantly deployed with Navy ships in the Mediterranean and Caribbean, and as a defense force for the Navy Base, Guantanamo Bay, Cuba.

TRAINING IN PUERTO RICO—Cpl. K. Streuble (left) and PFC J. W. Franken of the Second Marine Regiment, compare notes while on a reconnaissance patrol during a four-day guerrilla warfare problem.

ONE LAST LOOK—Cpl. Keith W. Kapalka, 9th Marine Regiment, enjoys a final look around the deep water pier area of Da Nang, RVN prior to boarding ship. Kapalka and the regiment redeployed to Okinawa.

REDEPLOYMENTS

In 1969, President Nixon and Defense Secretary Melvin R. Laird announced a policy of increased "Vietnamization" of the war; and in June, the President announced reductions in the authorized strength of American troops in RVN.

Included in the initial order redeploying American troops from RVN were 8,000 Marines of the 9th Marine Regimental Landing Team (RLT-9) of the 3d Marine Division, the unit which had landed the first American combat troops in RVN in 1965. Marines of RLT-9 were redeployed to a ready position on Okinawa in July and August, and a squadron of the 1st Marine Aircraft Wing was redeployed to MCAS Iwakuni, Japan.

Later, the rest of the 3d Marine Division and supporting elements of the 1st Marine Aircraft Wing were redeployed from RVN to posts in the Pacific Command and the United States. These moves resulted in a combined total of 26,500 Marines redeployed by the end of November.

The 3d MarDiv, which had provided the first American fighting troops to RVN in March 1965, returned to its home at Camp Courtney, Okinawa, in November 1969. Thus ended the longest continuous tour of combat duty by any division in the history of the American Armed Forces.

On November 26, 1969, the 5th Marine Division (less the 26th Marines still in RVN) was deactivated at Camp Pendleton, Calif., and at the same time the colors of the 5th Marine Expeditionary Brigade (5th MEB) were unfurled. Since the 5th Division's reactivation in 1966, its regimental landing teams and artillery regiment had added new battle honors to its World War II fame.

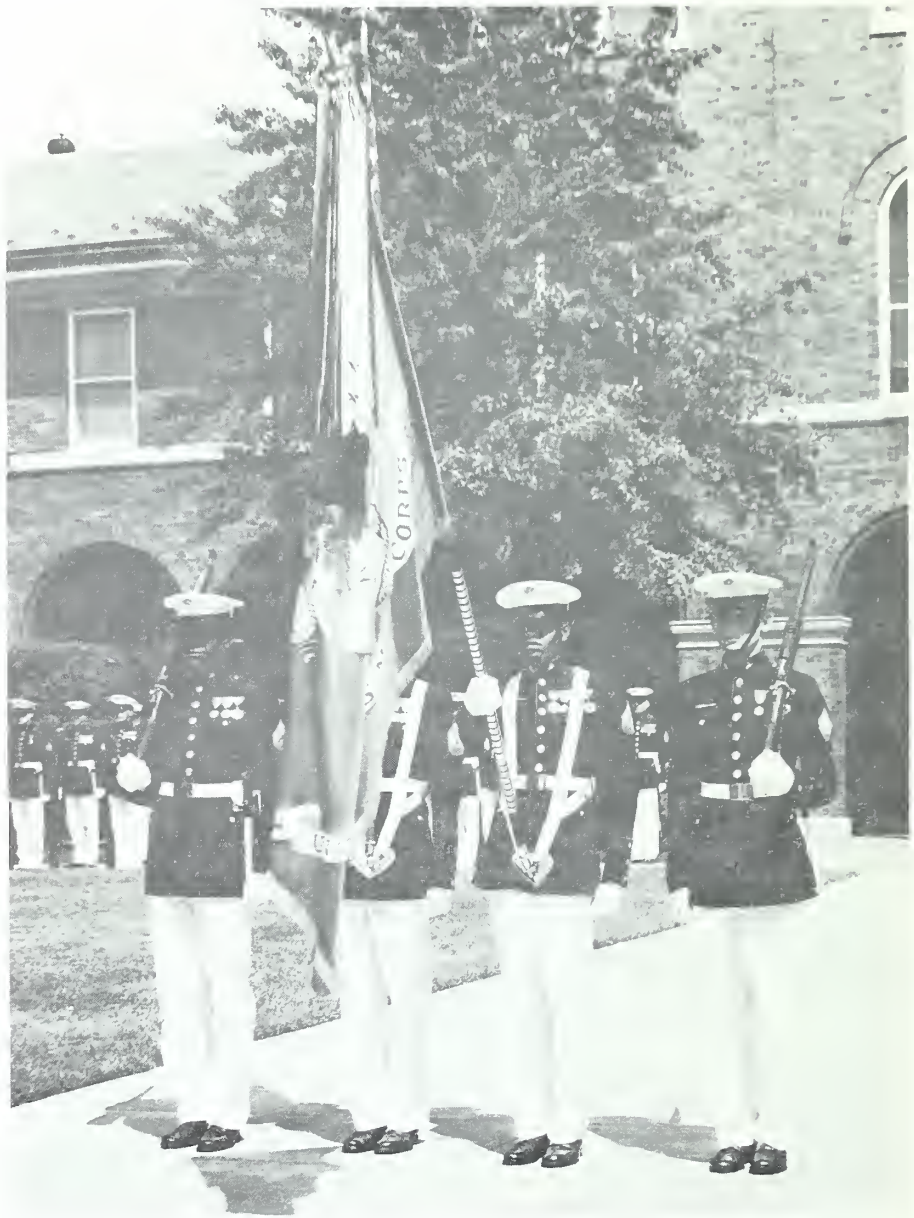
Effective November 1, Marine unaccompanied tours in WESTPAC were reduced from 13 months to 12 months, making Marine Corps overseas tours the same as other Armed Services.

THE TRANSITION—From raw recruit . . .

NEW MARINES

During FY69, some 89,000 Marine recruits received 8 weeks of "boot" training at Recruit Depots in San Diego, Calif., and Parris Island, S.C. The major Marine bases at Camp Pendleton, Calif., and Camp Lejeune, N.C., provided additional individual combat and specialist training.

Marine commissions were awarded to 3,880 officer candidates. Officer candidates trained at the Marine Corps Development and Education Center, Quantico, Va., where the Corps continued developing its amphibious landing force techniques.



. . . to efficient Marine working as part of a unique group.

AUTOMATED DATA SYSTEMS

MTACCS. The Marine Tactical Command and Control System has been initiated in order to provide Marine Commanders in the field with timely and accurate battlefield information. This automated air-ground tactical command and control system will integrate a family of modular data processing and communications equipment to meet Fleet Marine Force needs in 1975–1985.

Continuing Systems. In 1965, the Marine Corps began developing a major automated material management system called MUMMS (Marine Unified Material Management System). This system now controls supply stocking points throughout the Marine Corps.

At the same time, the Corps began developing a new automated system to manage Manpower Resources; it is called MMS (Manpower Management System).

A unique feature of MMS is that its data base can be merged with a major pay system called JUMPS (Joint Uniform Military Pay System) in 1971. Thus, manpower and pay will be controlled by a unified system.

Marine Corps automated systems are being developed to utilize the same computers. Multi-programming will also accommodate other systems including a financial management system and operational reporting systems.

Also in 1969, the Corps moved closer to achieving its goal of a single information system called I²S (Integrated Information System) and a network of Automated Services Centers to operate all automated systems throughout the Marine Corps

MACCS

One of the on-going programs in Marine Aviation is the Marine Tactical Data System (MTDS) program which provides automated equipment for the Marine Air Command and Control System (MACCS). The computerized air control air defense equipments developed under MTDS will become standard equipment in all Marine Air Control Squadrons (MACS) during early 1970 when the final MACS receives its automated Tactical Air Operations Central TAOC.

This program has also fielded the Tactical Data Communications Central (TDCC) which provides high speed digital data communications with the amphibious task force for coordinated air control/air defense in amphibious operations. The program should be completed during 1970 with the delivery of the automated Tactical Air Command Central (TACC) to each Marine Aircraft Wing for service as the command post of the Tactical Air Commander.

AVIATION HIGHLIGHTS

In the 1960's, modern, sophisticated aircraft were added to the Corps' inventory.

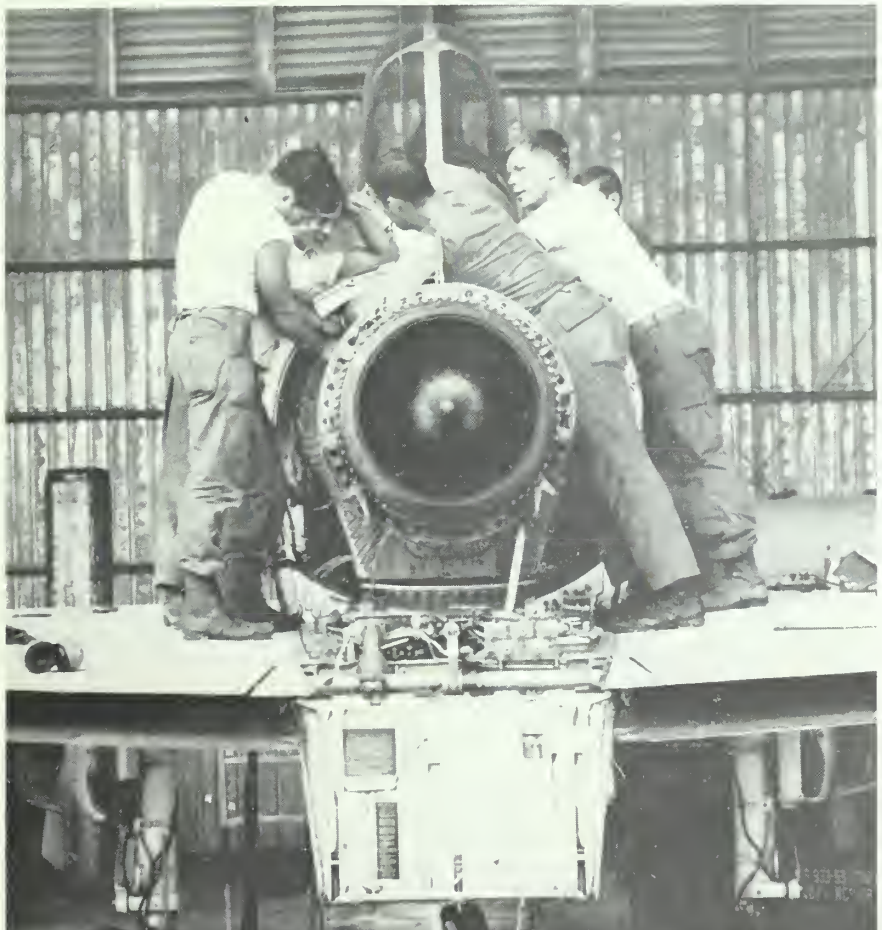
Early 1961 saw the Marines accept their first models of the McDonnell-Douglas F-4B Phantom II fighter. The plane, although primarily designed as a fighter, has been adapted to perform a variety of tasks.

In Vietnam, the Phantom has been used as a fighter-escort, a fighter-bomber (both level and dive), and as a photo reconnaissance aircraft. The F4B and the newer model F-4J are now the workhorses of Marine fighter aviation.

Throughout the sixties the Corps has also used the Douglas A-4 Skyhawk. The Skyhawk became a part of the Corps in the middle 'fifties and is still going strong as an ideal close air support jet.

ANTOM—A Chu Lai-ed Marine Fighter At-k Squadron 542 Phan-releases a load of 500-and bombs on an enemy get near Quang Tri in port of Operation King-er. *The Phantom was a radar - controlled mbing mission.*

JET MECHANICS—Marine Attack Squadron 121 jet mechanics work on an A-4E Skyhawk at Chu Lai.



PHANTOM—A Marine Fighter Attack Squadron 323 plane capta to a Phantom jet waiting for takeoff to pull the arming pins from t racks. The Chu Lai-based aircraft was enroute to support Republic Marines.

About the same time that the Phantom became a Marine, Grumm craft introduced the A-6A Intruder, and it soon became a member of th air arm. Called by some the most sophisticated aircraft in the wo attack bomber, with its unique all-weather air-to-ground delivery ca has become an indispensable member of the Corps' Air/Ground Tean nam. The Intruder is capable of carrying 7½ tons of ordnance slung its wings. In comparison, the World War II B-29 had a bomb load of onl

The A-6A also has a brother in the Marine Corps, the EA-6A El Countermeasures Aircraft, used to detect and help destroy the electronic capabilities.

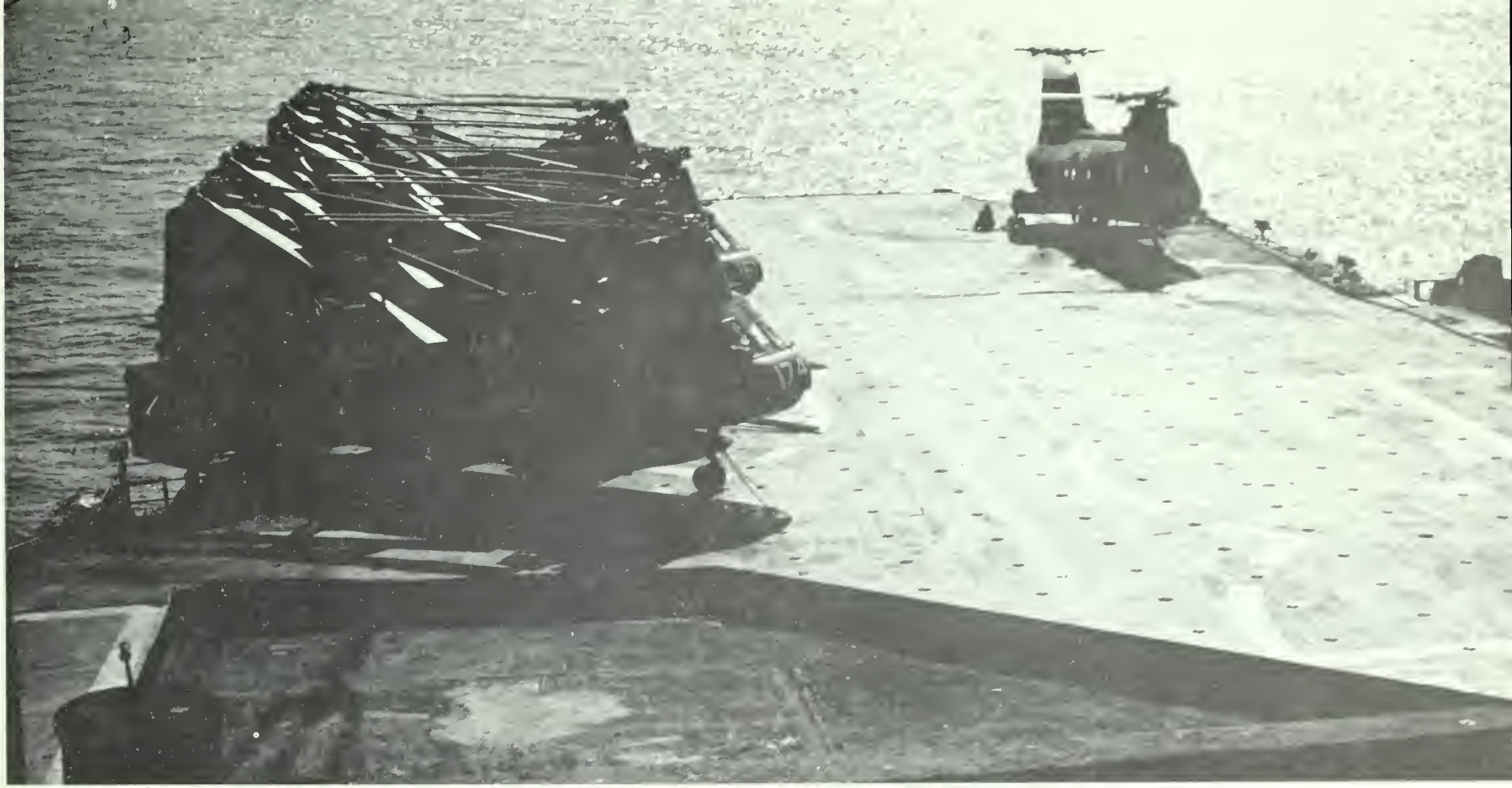
During the 'sixies, the Corps also retired many old and faithful wor Among them were the F-8 Crusader, the last of the "Gunfighters;" "Bird Dog" spotter plane; the UH-34 Sea Horse helicopter; and th helicopter.

These gave way to better, newer aircraft. The F-8 was replaced by Phantom; the O-1 by the OV-10A Bronco; the UH-34 by the CH-46 Sea and the CH-37 by the CH-53.

Still in service with Wing units is the versatile UH-1 "Huey," and th jet on active service, the EF-10B Sky Knight or "Willy the Whale" effective electronic warfare plane.

ERCULES — JATO take-ff of K-130 (Hercules) rom Marine Corps Air tation, El Toro, Calif. The lercules is used in Viet-am as an air-to-air refuel-ng/cargo aircraft.

WAR IN A SMALL PLACE — For crew members of Marine Sea Stallion helicopters, the Vietnam war is about ten feet wide and 30 feet long. Here, an aerial gunner (left) and a crew chief with Marine Heavy Helicopter Squadron 462 scan the ground below for signs of enemy activity while flying in support of infantry in Northern I Corps.



NAVY/MARINE CORPS STRIKING FORCE.—Marine copters on deck of U.S. Navy carrier at sea. Infantry troop be transported by these aircraft to landing zones far in

. . . Basic flight training for Marine pilots was given primarily by the Navy, aided by the Air Force and Army. Navy and Air Force training programs graduated 799 Marine jet and helicopter pilots; Army training programs graduated 150 helicopter pilots. After receiving their wings, all the Marine flyers underwent advanced training at Marine Air bases before qualifying for combat duty.

. . . Marine Aviation's highest award—the *Cunningham Trophy* and with it the title "Marine Aviator of the Year (1969)", went to *LtCol. Paul W. Niesen.* He was cited for outstanding contributions to Marine Aviation while commanding HMM-161. His squadron (flying the CH-46) provided the major helicopter support for the 3d MarDiv when the division began extensive heliborne operations in Northern I Corps in 1968.

The trophy, named for the Marine Corps' first aviator, *Alfred A. Cunningham,* was donated by the First Marine Aviation Force Veteran's Association. It was conceived to commemorate the 50th Anniversary of the founding of Marine Corps Aviation and to perpetuate the names of its pioneers.

Recipients since 1962 are:

Colonel John H. Glenn	1962
Colonel Michael P. Yunck	1963
Colonel Thomas J. Ross	1964
Maj. Raymond R. Powell	1965
LtCol. Charles H. Ludden	1966
Maj. Vincent J. Guinee, Jr.	1967
Maj. David L. Althoff	1968
LtCol. Paul W. Niesen	1969

AIR-SEA POWER—CH-46D Sea Knight flying carrier suitability tests from the LPH, USS GUADALCANAL.

AT WORK — Marine OV10 makes smoke screen pass to aid recovery and provide protection for a reconnaissance team insert.

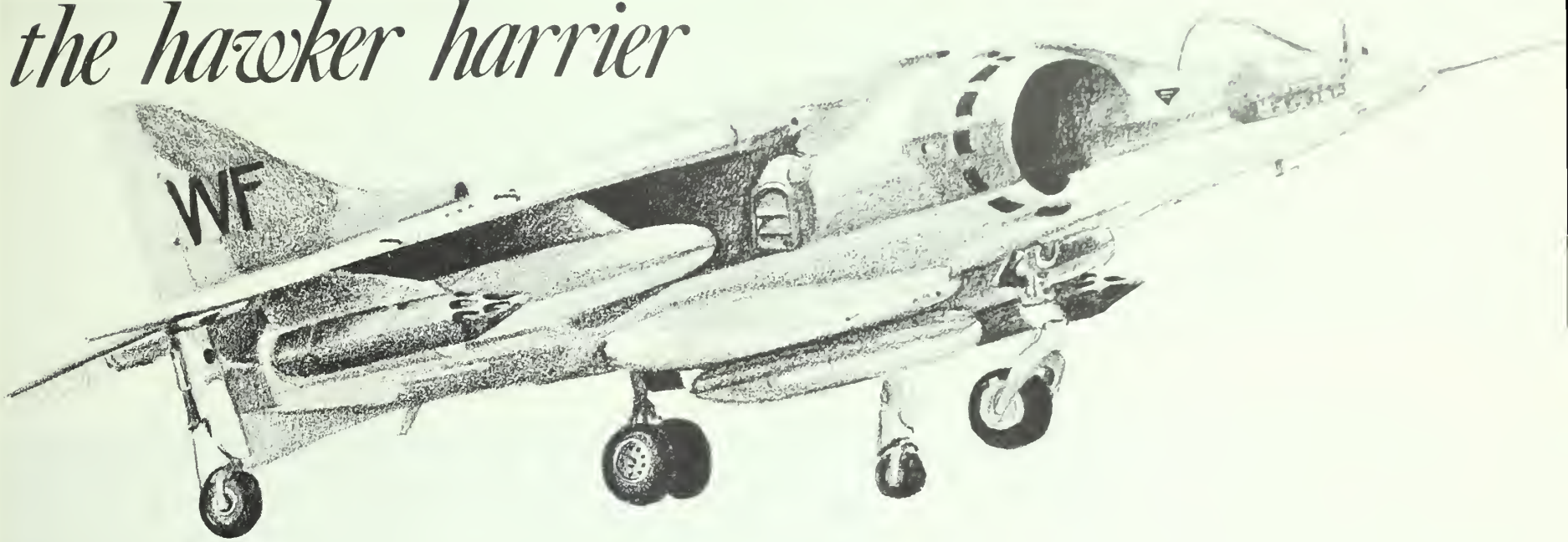
OTHER AVIATION NOTES

. . . Marines deployed two new helicopters in RVN in 1969. The CH-53D began replacing the less powerful CH-53A "*Sea Stallion.*" Its uprated engine helped raise payload capabilities from 8,000 lbs to 13,000 lbs under typical SEASIA conditions. The AH-1G "*Cobra*" augmented Marine "*Hueys*" (UH-1Es) for the armed helicopter mission. Boasting more speed than the *Huey* and enormous firepower, the *Cobra* and its weapons systems were designed strictly for fighting.

. . . The Corps met the need for combat-ready aircraft crews and maintenance men by activating new helicopter and fixed wing training groups in the U. S.

. . . The Marine Corps provided an OV-10A "*Bronco*" aircraft to the 1969 Paris Air Show. In conjunction with the ferry flight to Europe, the Marine OV-10A was flown non-stop from Stephenville, Newfoundland to RAF, Mildenhall, England, establishing a new point-to-point distance record for its type: 2,220 nautical miles in 11 hours 45 minutes.

the hawker harrier

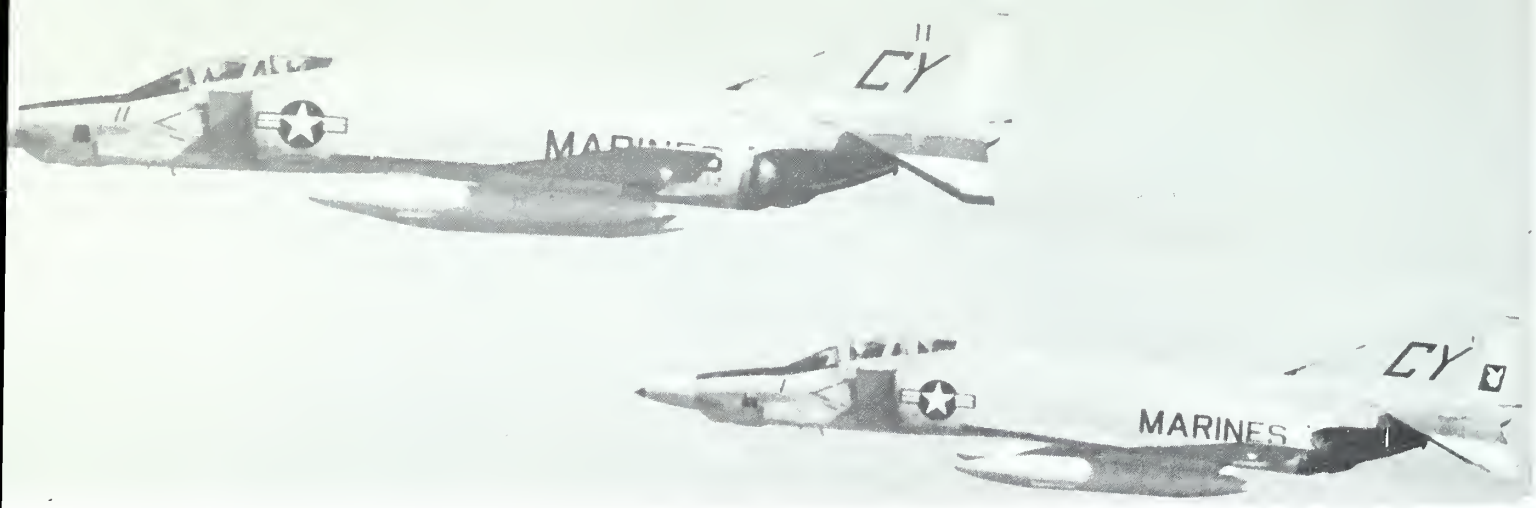


HAWKER HARRIER

In 1969, the Defense Department approved Corps plans to purchase an initial increment of 12 Hawker-Siddeley *Harriers*. The British-built *Harrier*, the result of ten years of study and development, is the free world's only operational V/STOL jet. Corps planners expect it to increase immeasurably the responsiveness of close air support. Its characteristics include:

—great thrust from a single, 21,500-lb. fan-jet engine.
—four rotatable engine thrust nozzles along the fuselage.
—direct vertical takeoff or landing, STOL as short as 100 feet, or conventional operation.
—unprecedented maneuverability
—tremendous acceleration
—a self-contained starting system
—communications and guidance systems comparable to other contemporary jets.
—a viable bomb payload and other potent armament.

The *Harrier's* inherent capabilities will enable it to operate from hel carriers, SATS, or almost any clearing near the battle area. Its fle should add whole chapters to Marine tactical air doctrine. Marine Corps with experience in both VTOL (helicopter) and jet operations, look forv the advent of the *Harrier*.



POWERFUL PAIR—A pair of RF-4B's in flight. (Photo left)

CATAPULT SHOT—Marines of MAG-12 catapult crew at Chu Lai position an A-4 Skyhawk for launch. (Photo at bottom right)

FIRST MISSION—A Marine pilot takes off on a combat mission in Vietnam. The F-4B Phantom pilot flies with Marine Fighter Attack Squadron 115.

END OF THE JOURNEY—LtCol. Ronald L. Townsend, CO, Marine All-Weather attack Squadron 255, *climbs down frim his A-6 Intruder after leading his squadron on its trans-Pacific flight from California to Da Nang in* 1969.

SATS AIRFIELD—This is a portion of the Short Airfield for Tactical Support (SATS) at Chu Lai, RVN. The SATS concept was developed by the Corps to provide portable landing fields which can be quickly assembled on the spot, allowing speedy landing of aircraft used in support of infantry. Note portion of flight line with cantonment area in background and 55 gallon drums, filled with sand which are used as revetment.

CLOSE SHOT—Marine Medium Helicopter Squadron 262 Sea Knights, carrying 3d Division Marines see a sure sign of the enemy's proximity as a North Vietnamese gun peppers a probable landing zone below.

OPERATION PRAIRIE—Troops of "M" Company, 3d Battalion, 3d Marine Regiment prepare to embark aboard a CH-46 helicopter during a sweep on Operation Priarie *near the DMZ.*

FIRST MARINE TO RECEIVE MEDAL OF HONOR FO
VALOR—Sgt. Robert E. O'Malley stands with President
B. Johnson in a receiving line after being presented the M
Honor on December 6, 1966.

COMBAT AWARDS

The Medal of Honor. Since the outset of the Vietnam War, the Nation's highest decoration has been awarded to 26 Marines, and one Navy Chaplain serving with Marines. The 1969 recipients were:

. . *Major Stephen W. Pless*
Helicopter Gunship Pilot, attached to Marine Observation Squadron 6 (VMO-6).
(Major Pless died in a road accident in Florida in July.)

. . *Private First Class Melvin E. Newlin* (posthumous award)
Machine Gunner attached to 1st Platoon, Company F, 2d Battalion, 5th Marines.

. . *Sergeant Rodney M. Davis* (posthumous award)
Platoon Sergeant,Company B, 1st Battalion, 5th Marines.

. . *Sergeant Paul H. Foster* (posthumous award)
Fire Support Coordination Chief with 2d Battalion, 4th Marines.

. . *Corporal Larry E. Smedley* (posthumous award)
Squad Leader, Company D, 1st Battalion. 7th Marines.

. . *Corporal William T. Perkins, Jr.* (posthumous award)
Combat Photographer, Company C, 1st Battalion, 1st Marines

. . *Sergeant Alfredo Gonzalez* (posthumous award)
Platoon Commander with 3d Platoon, Company A, 1st Battal
Marines.

. . *Lance Corporal Jedh C. Barker* (posthumous award)
Machine Gunner, Company F, 2d Battalion, 4th Marines.

. . *Second Lieutenant Terrence C. Graves* (posthumous award)
Platoon Commander, 3d Reconnaissance Company, 3d Reconn
Battalion, 3d Marine Division.

. . *Navy Chaplain Vincent R. Capodanno* (posthumous award)
Chaplain of 3d Battalion, 5th Marines.

Pre-1969 Vietnam War recipients of the Medal of Honor were:

. . Sergeant Robert E. O'Malley; 1st Lieutenant Frank S. Reasoner (posthumous); Lance Corporal Joe C. Paul (posthumous); Captain Harvey C. Barnum; Staff Sergeant Peter S. Connor (posthumous); Gunnery Sergeant Jimmie E. Howard; Major Howard V. Lee; 2d Lieutenant John J. McGinty III; Major Robert J. Modrzejewski; Private First Class Douglas E. Dickey (posthumous); Sergeant Richard A. Pittman; Private First Class James Anderson, Jr. (posthumous); 2d Lieutenant John C. Bobo (posthumous); Sergeant Walter K. Singleton (posthumous); Lance Corporal Roy M. Wheat (posthumous); Private First Class Gary W. Martini (posthumous); Captain James A. Graham (posthumous).

PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION.

The Presidential Unit Citation is the highest award that can be given to an entire unit for outstanding service in action, above and beyond the call of duty.

On November 1, 1967, Hubert H. Humphrey, then Vice President of the United States, presented the first PUC earned by Marines in Vietnam to the 3d Marine Division, for the period March 8, 1965 to September 15, 1967.

Later awards of the PUC for extraordinary heroism in Vietnam went to the following major units:

. . . The 1st Marine Aircraft Wing—May 11, 1965 to September 15, 1967.

. . . The 1st Marine Division (Reinforced)—March 29, 1966 to September 15, 1967.

. . . The Fifth Marines (Reinforced)—April 25, 1967 to June 5, 1967.

. . . The Twenty-Sixth Marines (Reinforced)—January 20 to April 1, 1968, during the battle for Khe Sanh.

. . . The First Marines-Reinforced, 1st Marine Division—January 31 to March 2, 1968, during *Operation Hue City*.

NAVY UNIT COMMENDATION.

By the end of 1969, the following major units had been authorized this award:

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC CRISIS

. . . 6th Marine Expeditionary Unit *and* Marine Corps Security Guard, American Embassy, Santo Domingo—April 26-30, 1965.

VIETNAM

. . . Marine Task Force 69.3.3.6—April 9, 1962 to Nov. 30, 1964.

. . . Detachment "A," First Radio Battalion, FMF—Feb. 15 to Aug. 15, 1964.

. . . Force Logistic Command--*first of two awards*—March 12, 1965 to March 15, 1967.

***PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION:** President Lyndon B. Johnson attaches the Presidential Unit Citation Streamer to the colors of the 26th Marine Regiment in ceremonies May 23, 1968 at the White House. Holding the unit's colors is Sergeant Major Agrippa W. Smith, Sergeant Major of the 1st Battalion, Ninth Marines, who remained as top enlisted man the longest period of time at Khe Sanh. The unit was cited for outstanding performance at Khe Sanh during the seven week siege by North Vietnamese Forces.*

. . . Marine Fighter/Attack Squadron 531—April 10 to June 15, 1965.
. . . 7th Regimental Landing Team—Aug. 18-23, 1965.
. . . Marine Composite Reconnaisance Squadron One—*first of two awards*—April 17 to Nov. 1, 1965.
. . . Marine Aircraft Group 12—*first of two awards*—May 7, 1965 to April 15, 1966.
. . . 3d Medical Battalion, 3d Marine Division—July 7, 1965 to Feb. 20, 1966.
. . . Marine Aircraft Group 36—*first of two awards*—Sept. 4, 1965 to Aug. 24, 1966.
. . . 3d Reconnaissance Battalion (Reinforced), 3d Marine Division—*first of two awards*—Sept. 22, 1965 to March 15, 1966.
. . . 2d Battalion, 7th Marines (Reinforced), 3d Marine Division—Dec. 8-20, 1965.
. . . Marine Composite Reconnaissance Squadron One—*second of two awards*—Nov. 1, 1965 to Sept. 20, 1966.
. . . Marine Aerial Refueler Transport Squadron 152—July 15 to Aug. 4, 1966.
. . . Marine Fighter/Attack Squadron 212, while attached to USS ORISKANY—May 10 to Dec. 6, 1965.
. . . Marine Air Control Group 18—Oct. 1, 1967 to April 30, 1968.
. . . 3d Reconnaissance Battalion (Reinforced), 3d Marine Division—*second of two awards*—Sept. 16, 1967 to July 31, 1968.
. . . Marine Aircraft Group 12—*second of two awards*—Sept. 15, 1967 to March 31, 1968.
. . . Headquarters, III Marine Amphibious Force—May 6, 1965 to J 1968.
. . . 2d Battalion, 4th Marines (Reinforced), 3d Marine Division—Ma May 31, 1968.
. . . 3d Battalion, 1st Marines, 1st Marine Division—Jan. 23 to A 1968.
. . . 1st Reconnaissance Battalion (Reinforced), 1st Marine Division 1967 to Oct. 1, 1968.
. . . Marine Aircraft Group 13—Sept. 15, 1967 to April 30, 1968.
. . . Marine Aircraft Group 36—*second of two awards*—Jan 31 to M 1968.
. . . Force Logistic Command—*second of two awards*—March 16, May 31, 1968.

In 1969, the U. S. Army's *Valorous Unit Award* (equivalent to the N Commendation) was awarded to the 1st 8" Howitzer Battery (SP), 3d Division, for extraordinary heroism from August 4, 1968 to Septem 1968, in Northern I Corps.

FIRE POWER—Leathernecks of "A" Co., 1st Bn., 1st Marine Regiment, move a 106mm recoilless rifle during heavy fighting in Hue.

THE CORPSMAN—Cpl. Larry R. Miklos (center) and an unidentified corpsman in a medevac helicopter which was being fired on by enemy machine guns. Milos, an artillery forward observer, was wounded during an enemy ambush south of Da Nang.

NAVY-MARINE CORPS TEAM

During the Vietnam War, Navy personnel serving with Marines set new records of heroism and inter-service cooperation. Bound together by 194 years of mutual history, their teamwork continued in 1969.

The Marine Corps provides the land-fighting elements for the Navy, and security detachments for Naval ships and stations.

Navy ships carry Marine combat units ashore in time of war and across the world during international crises. They transport the bulk of supplies and equipment to Marines—and their fellow American fighting men—in combat. They provide a base afloat from which Marine special landing forces may operate. They furnish air support and long-range naval gunfire support for Marines in amphibious landings and coastal operations, and pound enemy installations out of reach of ground troops.

Navy Seabees build with and for Marines in a battlefield tradition dating back to World War II.

Navy Chaplains and Corpsmen provide their finest service to Marines whom they accompany into combat.

Navy doctors, nurses, dentists, technicians, and other medical personnel provide more extensive medical care behind the lines—in field hospitals, hospital ships, clinics, aid stations—and, at home, in the aftermath of war.

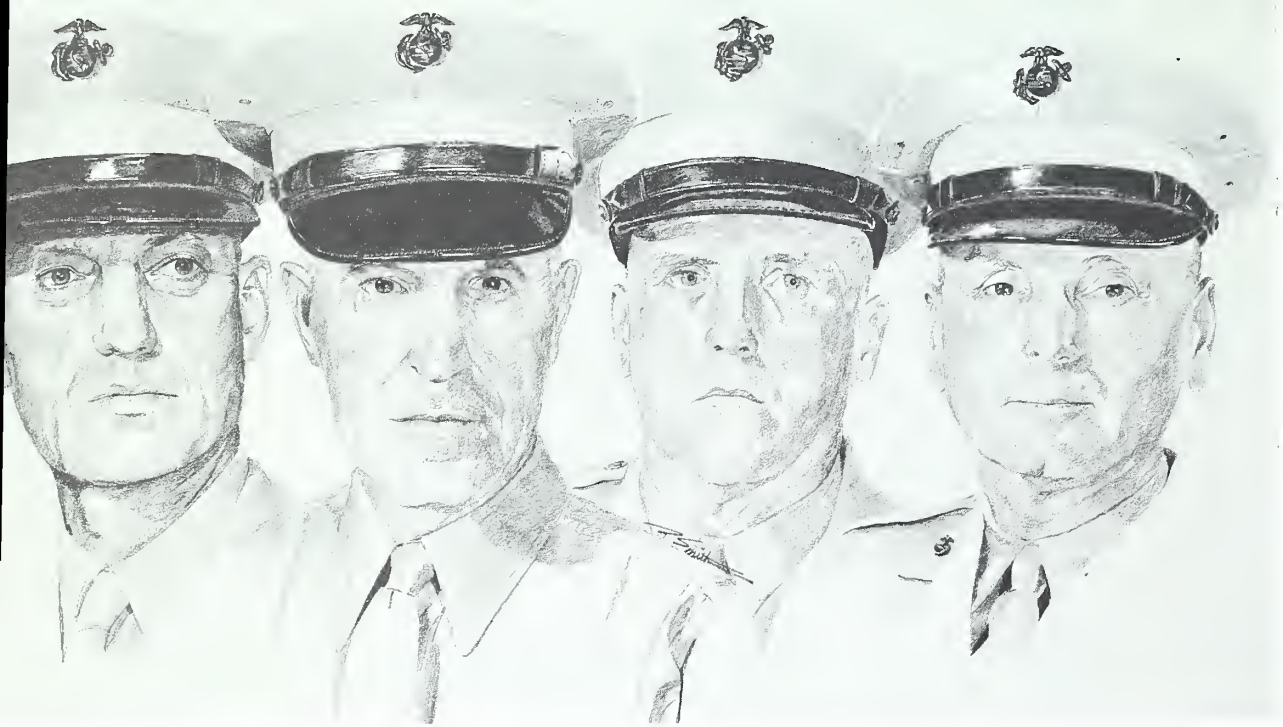
They also work alongside Marines to provide civic action aid to the Vietnamese people.

These non-combatants often come under enemy fire and have earned thousands of combat awards. Navy Corpsmen alone earned more than 3,989 Purple Heart Medals in RVN.

FATHER CAPODANNO—A field prayer service is held by Chaplain Vincent R. Capodanno for the men of "A" Company, 1st Battalion, 7th Marine Regiment. The chaplain was killed in action in 1967 while attending to stricken Marines. For his actions he was posthumously awarded the Medal of Honor.

HELPING HAND—A Marine is helped to an evacuation point after he was wounded during Operation Dewey Canyon. *Swift medical evacuation has resulted in the lowest mortality rates of any war the U.S. has been engaged in.*

CONSTANT ATTENTION—Lt. Ruth Purinton adju circo-electric bed for neurosurgical patient at a hospital i nam, while Hospital Corpsman James Cox checks the p condition. Nurse Corps officers and hospital corpsme round-the-clock attention to ward patients.



ENLISTED LEADERS—(left to right): SgtMaj. Bestwick, SgtMaj. Rauber, SgtMaj. McHugh and SgtMaj. Sweet. (below): SgtMaj. Dailey.

LEADERS

The Marine Corps of the 'sixties had three Commandants—

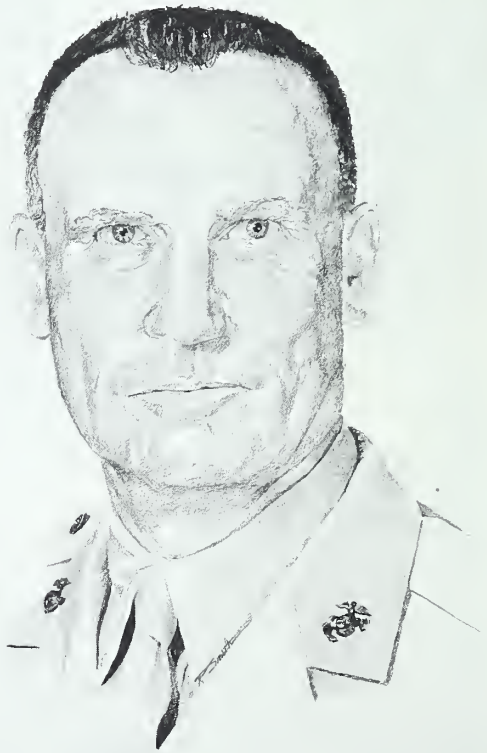
General David M. Shoup (1960–63)
General Wallace M. Greene, Jr. (1964–67)
General Leonard F. Chapman, Jr. (1968–present)

They served under four Commanders in Chief.

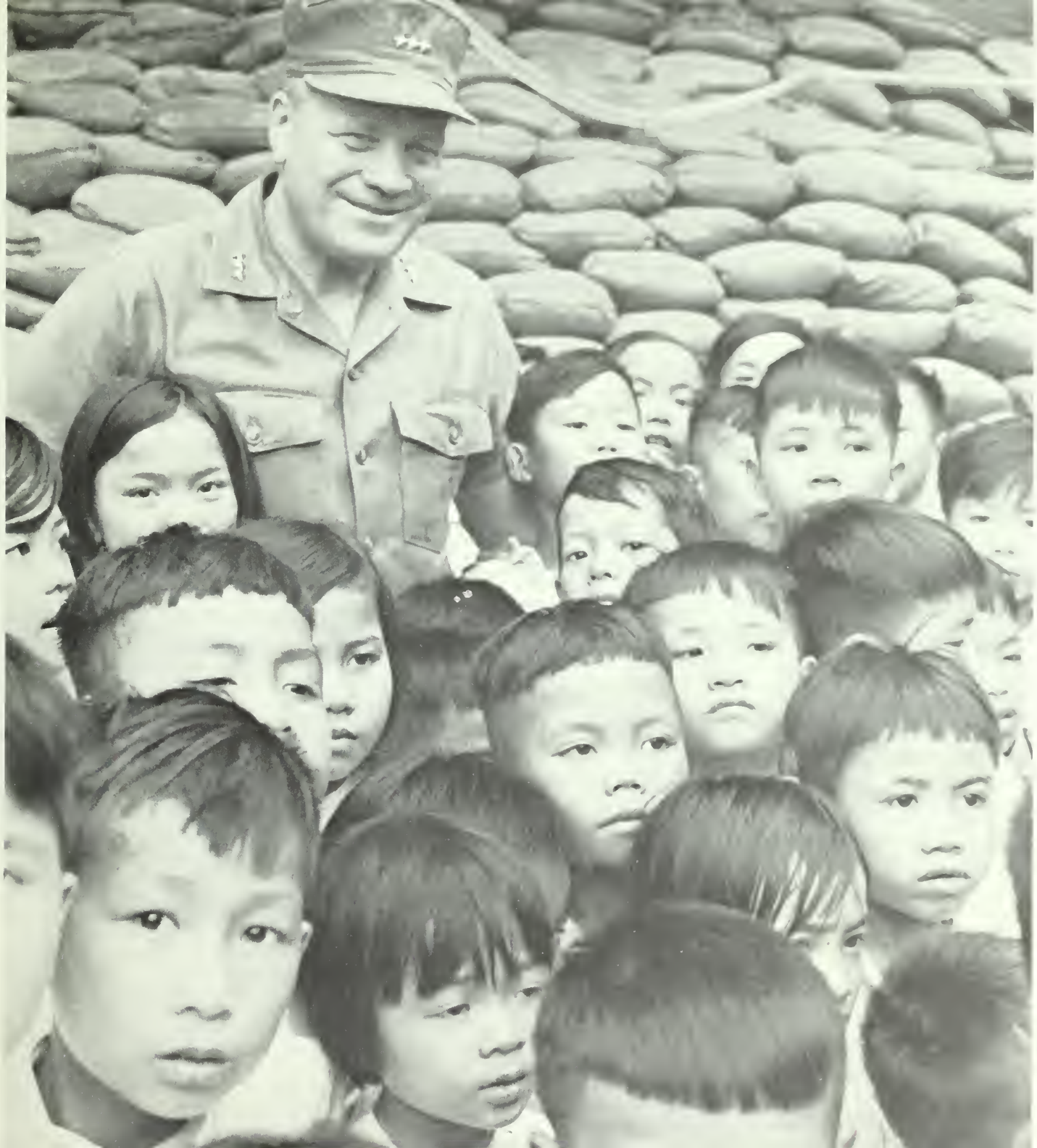
A unique first for the Corps was the establishment of a new enlisted leadership post called "*The Sergeant Major of the Marine Corps.*" With his office located at Headquarters Marine Corps in Washington, his job is to monitor enlisted personnel problems and act as liaison between the Commandant and Marine Corps enlisted personnel. Since the post was formed in 1957, all branches of the Armed Forces have set up similar billets.

The Sergeants Major of the Marine Corps:

SgtMaj. Wilbur Bestwick 1957–59
SgtMaj. Francis J. Rauber 1959–62
SgtMaj. Thomas J. McHugh 1962–65
SgtMaj. Herbert J. Sweet 1965–69
SgtMaj. Joseph W. Dailey 1969–present



☆ U.S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE: 1970 O—385-684



ASSISTANT COMMANDANT—
(now four-star general) Lewis W
Assistant Commandant of the
Corps, surrounded by Vietnames
dren during a visit to Dong Ha C
age. Gen. Walt is the first assistar
mandant in Corps history to w
four-star rank.

UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA
3 1262 08529 1424

FLARE